

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

P.O. BOX 942873, MS-49

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www.dot.ca.gov

*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

October 12, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the city of Roseville to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the Washington Boulevard and Andora Undercrossing Improvement Project (Project).

The total Project cost is approximately \$30 million and \$8 million in TIGER 2017 funding is requested by the city will be used to widen Washington Boulevard from two to four lanes between Sawtell Road and Pleasant Grove Boulevard, reconstruct the Andora Underpass beneath the Union Pacific Rail Road (UPRR) tracks, and construct new bicycle and pedestrian improvements. The Project will improve safety for all roadway users by improving roadway intersections and adding bicycle and pedestrian facilities where none currently exist. It contributes to the state of good repair by replacing the over 100-year old railroad undercrossing; increase economic competitiveness by supporting movement of goods into and out of the UPRR J.R. Davis Yard, the largest rail facility on the west coast. Quality of life and environmental sustainability for the community improves by relieving congestion, supporting continued redevelopment in downtown Roseville and on the Placer County Fairgrounds, and encouraging healthy lifestyles with enhanced multimodal access to jobs, schools, and commercial centers.

Caltrans appreciates your consideration of this Project that is uniquely crafted to leverage a variety of funding sources to the benefit of the national, regional and local economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590
United States

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Port of Hueneme (Port) to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the Structured for Transfer of Automobiles Creating Key Economic Development Project (Project).

The requested \$17.5 million in TIGER grant funds will improve intermodal infrastructure that will grow the business of existing Port customers by building a two-story automobile transfer structure as a multimodal exchange location for an additional 120,000 automobiles each year. The Project will create an additional 724 new jobs, generate over \$36.5 million in local business revenue, and \$6 million in State and local taxes. The Project will increase efficiency with the reconfiguration of terminal traffic circulation, and increase competitiveness with infrastructure and electrical system upgrades for reefers to meet the demands and vast changing dynamics of global trade, and a solar power component to progress zero emissions initiatives.

Thank you for your consideration. Caltrans looks forward to continue working with the Port of Hueneme on this long awaited and high-priority Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application from the cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento to the United States (U.S.) Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the I Street Bridge Replacement Project (Project).

The \$25 million being requested by the cities will be used to replace the I Street Bridge on a new alignment consisting of two lanes, median, bike lanes, and sidewalks. The Project has been the successful culmination of a major planning effort by both cities, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Coast Guard, Caltrans, federal and State environmental resource agencies, and the local community. The Project improves safety for all roadway users by providing standard travel lane widths and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. It contributes to the state of good repair by removing vehicles from the existing substandard railroad bridge constructed in 1911 and placing them on a new bridge with accommodations for future streetcar. The Project increases economic competitiveness by providing a direct connection into the region's largest brownfield development, the SPRR railyards in Sacramento, and redevelopment efforts in West Sacramento. Quality of life and environmental sustainability for the community improves by providing a new multimodal low-level crossing of the Sacramento River connecting housing, commercial, institutional, and recreational land uses while addressing environmental concerns.

Caltrans appreciates your consideration of this Project that is uniquely crafted to leverage a variety of funding sources to the benefit of the national, regional, and local economy.

Sincerely,

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the city of Hesperia (City) to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 20017 (TIGER FY 2017) competitive grant program for the \$37 million Ranchero Road Widening Project (Project).

The City is requesting \$9.7 million in TIGER 2017 grant funds to complete the final phase of this nationally and regionally recognized Project. The first two phases included a new Interchange at Ranchero Road and Interstate 15 (I-15) and an underpass at Ranchero Road and the BNSF Railway tracks. Ranchero Road will serve as an alternate route for the nationally and regionally significant I-15, which remains the primary route between the greater Los Angeles Basin and San Diego, and the High Desert, Las Vegas, Salt Lake City, and beyond. The Project will provide a regionally significant alternate east-west route to the eastern portions of Hesperia and the town of Apple Valley. Upon completion, the Project will meet all of the TIGER program's goals: it will improve safety (enhancing capacity and decreasing emergency response times), bring the corridor into a state of good repair (replacing deteriorating/failing asphalt concrete), improve air quality (reducing congestion and vehicle emissions), improve quality of life (creating pedestrian and bicycle improvements and access to essential services), and support economic competitiveness (improving freight access to the City's industrial corridor).

Caltrans supports this "shovel ready," regionally and nationally significant Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY

Director

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October 13, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) to the United States (U.S.) Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program funding for the Interstate 5 (I-5)/State Route 56 (SR-56) Improvements Project (Project).

The requested \$25 million in TIGER 2017 funding will allow SANDAG to construct critical operational and infrastructure improvements with associated benefits on SR-56 at the I-5 connection including:

- 3.8 miles of auxiliary lanes on SR-56 at the I-5 interchange to improve traffic safety and reduce congestion.
- 2.5 miles of bicycle/pedestrian trails, including a new crossing under I-5 and a connection to the Sorrento Valley commuter rail station.
- A new bridge over Carmel Valley Creek to improve tidal flow and reduce flood risk to I-5.

In addition, the proposed Project will contribute to a state of good repair with needed improvements to roadway assets and address environmental sustainability and quality of life by providing a facility that is compatible with anticipated future transit and other modal options.

The I-5 is the central spine of the North Coast Corridor (NCC) Program, providing mobility for millions of residents and visitors as well as significant international shipping—to and from the U.S.–Mexico border and Port of San Diego to the south; and the U.S.–Canada border and Ports of Long Beach, Los Angeles, Tacoma, and Seattle to the north. Because of I-5's critical role in goods movement and economic vitality, Caltrans has designated the I-5 NCC as a top-ten high-priority corridor for congestion relief and Traffic System Management & Operations and Intelligent Transportation System improvements.

The Honorable Elaine Chao
October 13, 2017
Page 2

The Project is located at a key interchange in the 27-mile North Coast Corridor (NCC), an economic lifeline for the San Diego region and a crucial link for national and international commerce. SR-56 provides suburban and rural residents with a direct link to the NCC, including 22 percent of the region's jobs.

Caltrans supports the Project as it was designed with the consideration of the larger NCC Program that is a balanced set of transportation, environmental, and coastal access projects to improve the quality of life for residents, create a stronger regional and local economy for the future, and enhance the coastal environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Dougherty", with a stylized flourish at the end.

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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October 10, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

State Route 99 (SR-99) serves as the backbone of California's Central Valley agriculture economy. The SR-99-Avenue 12 to Avenue 17 Goods Movement Widening Project (Project) is identified in the California Freight Plan as a high priority shovel-ready project that would strengthen a major goods movement section through the city of Madera and reduce the time it takes for perishable commodities to go from farm to markets throughout the United States and around the world.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program in the amount of \$25 million to help bring the Project to construction.

With support from the city of Madera and the county of Madera, MCTC has programmed funds for this \$81,395,000 Project from its local transportation sales tax measure as well as various state funds to provide the additional funds and necessary match required of the TIGER 2017.

Ultimately, this Project, to widen SR-99 from four lanes to six lanes, to improve the movement of goods through this section of the Central Valley will improve safety, reduce congestion, increase connectivity of the highway system, and preserve acceptable facility operation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Dougherty", is written over a horizontal line.

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the County of San Diego (County) to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the Bradley Avenue/State Route 67 Interchange Project (Project).

The County is requesting \$12,404,000 in TIGER 2017 grant funds for this much needed Project. The Project addresses safety issues, improves a Caltrans Bridge asset to a state of good repair, optimizing long term life-cycle costs, improves mobility of people, goods, and services to reduce travel times; and provides sidewalks and bike routes on both sides of Bradley Avenue. The Project is economically significant with long term job creation since it is the main access to a major commercial/industrial area, including Gillespie Field, a large General Aviation Airport located in San Diego County. The airport serves many rural areas in the region and is used as a staging area for firefighting equipment during emergency response events.

Caltrans is a partner in the Project and recognizes the importance of the Project to the mobility and economic vitality of the region.

Sincerely,

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MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Amador County Department of Transportation and Public Works (County) to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the State Route 88 (SR-88)/Pine Grove Corridor Improvement Project (Project).

The SR-88 through the rural town of Pine Grove serves as the town's main street and is a critical interregional travel route. The requested \$10.2 million in TIGER grant funds will leverage non-federal funding through State, regional, and local partnerships for the project, which proposes to signalize and modify intersections and construct pedestrian and bicycle improvements to enhance safety for all users along the existing highway corridor. This innovative Project aligns with the TIGER 2017 grant selection criteria to enhance safety, maintain a state of good repair, and improve economic competitiveness and quality of life, while considering environmental sustainability. In addition to the Project safety features, general roadway infrastructure improvements will upgrade the facility to meet a 20-year design life. The Project will enhance developmental potential along the corridor as envisioned by the community and has the least impact to the environment of all alternatives studied during the planning process. Once completed, this SR-88 project will provide for a safer, more accessible and connected three-mile corridor in Pine Grove, creating a true main street environment, benefiting the residents, businesses, and visitors to the region.

Thank you for your consideration. Caltrans looks forward to continue working with the town of Pine Grove and Amador County on this long awaited and high-priority Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Stanislaus County to the United States (U.S.) Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the North County Corridor new State Route (SR) 108 Project (Project).

Stanislaus County lies in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, the center of the State's agricultural industry. Increased agriculture production and populations has put a strain on existing east-west transportation routes. This has created safety and congestion problems for highways carrying people and goods to and from east-west destinations and is a barrier for this agricultural hub of the U.S. to continue meeting the increasing agricultural needs of our nation.

Existing SR-108 connects the cities of Modesto, Riverbank, and Oakdale ultimately to SR-99. With a high volume of truck traffic and inadequate connections to existing infrastructure, this two-lane highway with uncontrolled access carries traffic volumes that overwhelm its capacity and create numerous safety problems along its length. The \$25 million requested through the TIGER 2017 grant program will be leveraged with \$37 million of State funding and \$30 million of local developer fee funds to construct the most critical two mile segment of this east-west transportation corridor.

Caltrans strongly recommends that the Project be given every consideration in the upcoming process to allocate funding for important transportation needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the Southern California Rail Signal and Track Modernization Project (Project).

The Project requests \$5 million in TIGER 2017 grant funding to be matched with State formula funding of \$18.6 million. The Project will modernize signal and track at Los Angeles Union Station (LAUS). With 1,400 commuter and long-distance trains accessing the station each week, LAUS is the nation's busiest rail terminal west of Chicago, and one of the five most active passenger rail stations in the U.S. The Project will:

1. Enhance safety by reducing related incidents including train derailments and track structure failures.
2. Establish a state of good repair by reducing the average number of incidents related to signal and track failure.
3. Improve economic competitiveness by staunching the cascading effect of delays.
4. Apply innovation by installing a state-of-the-art track and signal system.

Caltrans supports the Project that will profoundly improve train reliability that affects not just the region, but the nation, for a modest TIGER 2017 investment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the San Joaquin Economies of Rail Project (Project).

The Project seeks \$9 million in TIGER funding for the construction of rail connections to the Union Pacific Railroad main line in Stockton and Lathrop. Granting the TIGER 2017 fund request will allow SJCOG to leverage State and private funds to make these critical improvements in the region's rail infrastructure to increase the efficiency of freight and passenger movement, provide improved access from the Port of Stockton to national and worldwide markets, and facilitate continued economic growth and competitiveness.

The Port of Stockton is a major economic asset to the San Joaquin Valley and northern California megaregion. Completing the Project will increase freight rail efficiency and help to strengthen the economic vitality of the region. Construction of the Project will also help reduce traffic delays and locomotive idling, and improve air quality throughout the region.

Caltrans values our working relationship with SJCOG, and given the many public benefits associated with this Project for our region, we strongly support the TIGER 2017 application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program funding for the Interstate 5 (I-5)/State Route 56 (SR-56) Improvements Project (Project).

SANDAG is requesting \$25 million in TIGER 2017 funding to construct critical operational improvements on SR-56 to relieve congestion around the I-5 connection. These improvements will help to reduce potential flooding of I-5 by replacing a downstream bridge, provide improved ingress/egress to I-5 by constructing two auxiliary lanes, and remove I-5 as a barrier to bicycle and pedestrian traffic by constructing a new facility under I-5. In addition, the proposed Project will contribute to a state of good repair with needed improvements to roadway assets and address environmental sustainability and quality of life by providing a facility that is compatible with anticipated future transit and other modal options.

Caltrans supports the Project as it was designed with the consideration of the larger North Coast Corridor Program that is a balanced set of transportation, environmental, and coastal access projects to improve the quality of life for residents, create a stronger regional and local economy for the future, and enhance the coastal environment.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Malcolm Dougherty is written over a horizontal line.

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the city of San Diego to the United States (U.S.) Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the Otay Mesa Truck Route Phase 4 Project (Project).

The city of San Diego is requesting \$6 million in TIGER funding to reconstruct, widen, extend, and improve the existing Southbound Truck Export Road that fronts a portion of the U.S.-Mexico border in the Otay Mesa Community. The proposed improvements to the Project will provide a widened shoulder dedicated for emergency vehicles, the U.S. Border Patrol and other federal and State agencies. In addition, the proposed Project will enhance and improve local safety and security, increase response time of emergency services substantially, and contribute to a state of good repair with needed improvements to roadway assets. The Project will also increase economic competitiveness by promoting sustained export activity, address environmental sustainability and quality of life by reducing truck idling; and eliminating congestion caused by trucks on local streets.

Caltrans supports the Project since it will provide infrastructure that is essential to both the national and regional economy at the Otay Mesa Port of Entry, where over \$31 billion worth of freight goods travel through annually.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
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Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Imperial County Transportation Commission to the United States (U.S.) Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the Calexico East Port of Entry Project (Project).

The grant amount being requested is \$25 million, which in turn will cover the bridge expansion over the All American Canal, two new southbound and two new northbound lanes, and road construction. The Project will include a \$1.8 million local match commitment bringing the total cost estimate to \$26.8 million. In partnership with the U.S. General Services Administration, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Caltrans, and the county of Imperial, the Project aims to improve freight elements of the Calexico East Port of Entry. These improvements help alleviate congestion, decrease cross border wait times, and enhance international trade and commerce.

Caltrans supports the Project since it will decrease transportation costs and improve access in this rural community. By facilitating efficient and reliable freight movement, the Project will result in long-term job creation and deliver economic benefits that will help the U.S. compete in a global economy.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Malcolm Dougherty is written over a horizontal line.

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation supports the Port of Stockton's (Port) application for a \$9.6 million Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant application to assist in funding the Port's Fyffe Grade Separation Project (Project).

The Project would replace an existing at-grade rail crossing entrance to the Port with a new grade-separated crossing. It would also complete a critical last mile link from the National Highway System into the Port's main entrance. Over 3,000 trucks and cars a day enter the Port via this entrance. The Project would eliminate truck and vehicle delays, and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by allowing a free flow of traffic entering the Port. This supports regional planning goals by leveraging a cost-effective investment that yields GHG reductions. The Project would also leverage several projects currently underway or completed, such as the Navy Drive Bridge Widening Project, the Navy Drive Widening Project, and the Navy Drive Underpass. These regionally planned projects are part of the Port's strategic plan.

The San Joaquin Valley (Valley) is California's fastest growing region and the nation's number one agricultural producer, generating more than \$35 billion in agricultural commodities. The Port plays a major role as an international gateway in moving this freight. As a growing and diversified region, the Valley depends on an efficient goods movement system for its long-term economic success and to safely move agricultural products to the nation. Caltrans strongly supports this Project that promotes efficient goods movement, reduces GHG emissions, improves safety, and is consistent with maintaining transportation facilities in a state of good repair.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Malcolm Dougherty, written in a cursive style.

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
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Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Calaveras County Council of Governments (CalCOG) to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the State Route (SR) 4 Wagon Trail Realignment Project (Project).

California's Calaveras county faces significant transportation needs that will have safety, mobility, and environmental consequences if not addressed. The SR-4, connecting eastern rural California to the urbanized areas of the Central Valley and San Francisco Bay Area, is a case in point. This two-lane highway carries a high volume of recreational and truck traffic that overwhelms its capacity and creates numerous safety problems. The horizontal and vertical alignments follow the existing rolling topography, resulting in numerous curves and limited sight distance. The existing geometry, combined with large traffic volumes, reduces the roadway operating speed to approximately 25 to 35 miles per hour. This segment also has a higher than average accident rate. Construction of a new alignment, two standard-width lanes, and paved shoulders, would reduce accidents, improve operational efficiency and relieve current and future traffic congestion. The Project represents a regional priority that has earned the commitment of a variety of partners. The \$16.7 million requested through the TIGER 2017 grant program will be leveraged with \$10.7 million of state and local funding (State Transportation Improvement Program and Developer Impact Fees) to improve this corridor. Federal support represents the final amount to bring this critical Project to fruition.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and Caltrans looks forward to your consideration and support for the Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Malcolm Dougherty", is positioned above the printed name.

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is pleased to be a co-applicant with the San Benito Council of Governments to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the State Route (SR) 156 Improvement Project (Project).

The Project proposes to convert five miles of a two-lane conventional highway to a four-lane divided expressway. The existing highway will be retained as a two-lane frontage road. This project is one component of a corridor-wide vision to improve interregional freight mobility and provide multi-modal transportation choices to improve the quality of life for the community.

In 2012, this region's inbound and outbound freight flows were valued at \$101.9 billion. The significance of this route-to-goods movement in California, and the importance of this project in maintaining mobility, is reflected in state, regional, and local plans. The Caltrans Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan 2015 identifies SR-156 as a Major Interregional Facility and Strategic Interregional Corridor providing connectivity between the Central Coast, Silicon Valley, and San Joaquin Valley. The SR-156 is identified as a critical freight network facility that is essential to the national, state, and regional economies. The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments' Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Monterey Bay 2035 Moving Forward, features the Project as the primary interregional project in the region.

Thank you for considering the Project's request for \$14 million in TIGER 2017 grant program funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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P.O. BOX 942873, MS-49
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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

October 10, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Construction Authority to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the Alameda Corridor-East Durfee Avenue Grade Separation Project (Project).

The Project is a high-priority grade separation component of a comprehensive infrastructure program to improve transportation safety, reliability, and mobility at rail crossings and reduce the negative community and air quality impacts along one of the nation's busiest freight rail corridors. Congress recognized ACE as trade corridor of national significance that connects southern California ports to the transcontinental rail network, carrying 21 percent of the nation's oceangoing containerized exports and imports. The Union Pacific Railroad route is used by an average of 32 freight trains per day as well as a dozen passenger trains carrying commuters between Los Angeles and Riverside, California, averaging 96,000 boardings per month.

The ACE Construction Authority is requesting a TIGER grant of \$15 million and is prepared to commit \$73.08 million in other federal, State, local and private funds—a match of 83 percent. The Project is ready to initiate construction in 2018, having made use of expedited environmental approvals received under the Federal delegation of authority to the state of California for National Environmental Policy Act compliance for bridge and road projects.

Caltrans looks forward to working with the ACE Construction Authority on this important Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) supports the application of the City of Brea for the United States Department of Transportation's (U.S. DOT) Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the State Route 57 (SR-57) Lambert Road Improvement Project (Project).

The SR-57 is located in the Los Angeles–Long Beach–Santa Ana urbanized area. It is one of the most traveled and congested corridors in the State and relied upon by commuters and freight haulers alike in the region, which provides vital access between the counties of Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino. The Project proposes to make major improvements at the SR-57/Lambert Road interchange located in the City of Brea that would reduce the current congestion, increase signal queue capacity, and better accommodate anticipated traffic increases, thereby minimizing delays and potential safety hazards.

Caltrans supports this project proposal and respectfully request that the U.S. DOT give full and fair consideration to this important project proposal. I would like to thank you in advance for your consideration of the TIGER Discretionary Grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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October 10, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

This letter is in support of the continued efforts of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) the Kern Council of Governments (KernCOG), and the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG), to secure funding as co-applicants to the United States (U.S.) Department of Transportation's (DOT) Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program to convert State Route (SR) 46, between U.S. 101 in San Luis Obispo County and Interstate 5 in Kern County, from a rural two-lane conventional highway to a four-lane expressway project (Project). The Project will ensure the safe and efficient movement of goods along the SR-46 corridor. A Memorandum of Understanding between Caltrans, SLOCOG, and KernCOG establishes a working relationship to secure funding for improvements within the SR-46 corridor. KernCOG, in partnership with Caltrans District 6, aims to complete SR-46 between the County line and Bakersfield. SLOCOG is working in partnership with Caltrans District 5 to complete the remaining segments in the San Luis Obispo County.

The U.S. Department of Defense, in cooperation with the U.S. DOT, has identified SR-46 East as a Strategic Highway Corridor Network (STRAHNET) route. STRAHNET is a network of linked highways deemed essential to the national defense for facilitating the movement of troops and equipment to airports, ports, rail lines and military bases. The proposed Project provides multiple benefits in improving safety, relieving congestion, and facilitating goods movement and recreational travel. This investment helps complete the final portion of the overall corridor improvement project by constructing a grade separated interchange at the SR-41/46 junction.

Caltrans fully supports KernCOG and SLOCOG's funding request for TIGER 2017, which will provide the necessary resources to break ground on the next highway segment by 2021. We highly appreciate your consideration for funding the Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Dougherty".

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

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October 10, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:


The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is pleased to be a co-applicant with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) to the United States Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery 2017 (TIGER 2017) competitive grant program for the Santa Barbara U.S. 101 Corridor: Access to Opportunities Project (Project).

The U.S. 101 freeway is the only major highway connecting the central coast to both northern and southern California. The U.S. 101 and Interstate (I) 5 are the only two north-south interregional highways between Los Angeles and San Francisco. When I-5 is closed due to weather conditions, traffic accidents, or other hazards, U.S. 101 absorbs the excess traffic and freight movement.

The U.S. 101 corridor currently operates with Level of Service F congested flow conditions for two to four hours daily. Congestion is estimated to increase to over ten hours per day by 2040. The corridor provides access from California's Central Coast agricultural operations to markets around the country. The Project will increase capacity and reduce congestion on U.S. 101, improve interregional goods movement, increase safety and multi-modal access, and create access to jobs. It will help protect the economic viability, quality of life, and environmental sustainability of the entire region by reducing travel delays, improving goods movement, and providing employees with new multi-modal commute options.

Caltrans strongly supports SBCAG's effort to widen the U.S. 101 freeway, and encourage your support in funding this application for \$25 million in TIGER 2017 grant funding.

Sincerely,


MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director